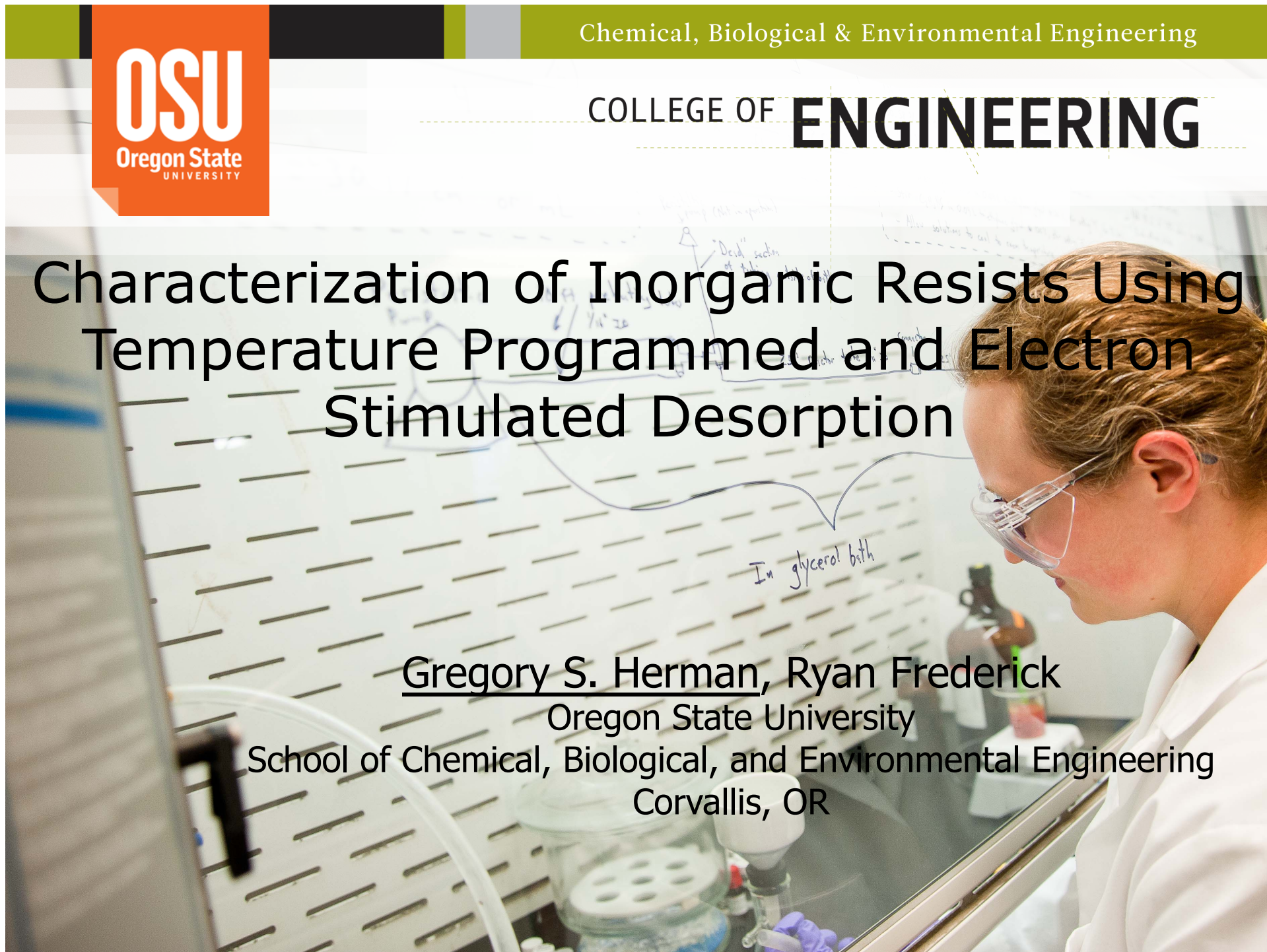


Characterization of Inorganic Resists Using Temperature Programmed and Electron Stimulated Desorption

Gregory S. Herman, Ryan Frederick
Oregon State University

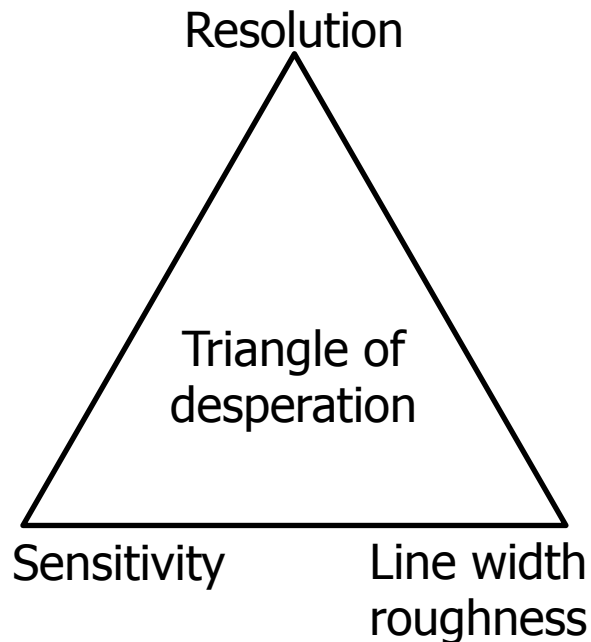
School of Chemical, Biological, and Environmental Engineering
Corvallis, OR



Critical Challenges for EUV Photoresists

Challenge	Areas to focus
EUV interaction with resist	High EUV quantum yield, low electron affinity, reduce electron blur
Resolution	Improve contrast, swelling control, reduce diffusion, electron scattering, minimize acid diffusion
Line width roughness	Improve resist homogeneity, aggregation mitigation, minimize acid diffusion
Photospeed	EUV sensitization (higher cross sections)
Pattern Collapse	Reduced aspect ratios (thinner films)
Defects	Aggregation mitigation, improve resist homogeneity
High selectivity to etch process	Integration of inorganic functionality

Lithographic Uncertainty Principle

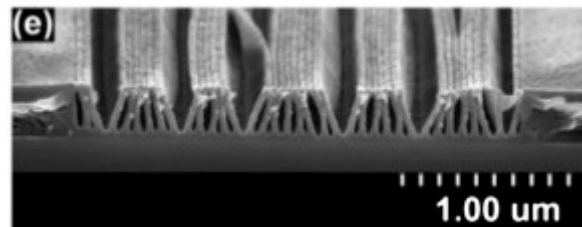


	Resolution (pitch in nm)	Sensitivity ($\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$)	Line width roughness (nm)
PMMA ¹ (organic)	20	6000	2-3 nm
HSQ ² (inorganic)	9	10000	< 2 nm
HafSOx ³ (inorganic)	21	800	< 2 nm

¹H. Duan *et al.*, *JVST B* **28**, C6C58 (2010)

²J. K. W. Yang *et al.*, *JVST B* **27**, 2622 (2009)

³A. Telecky *et al.*, *JVST B* **28**, C6S19 (2010)

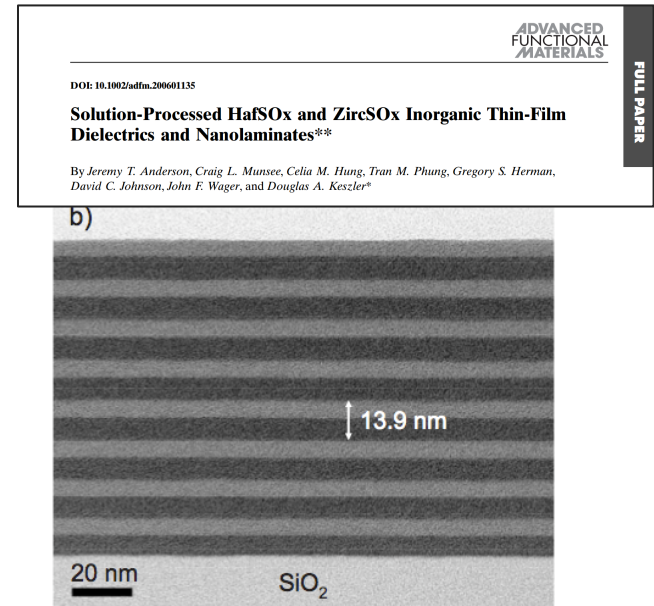
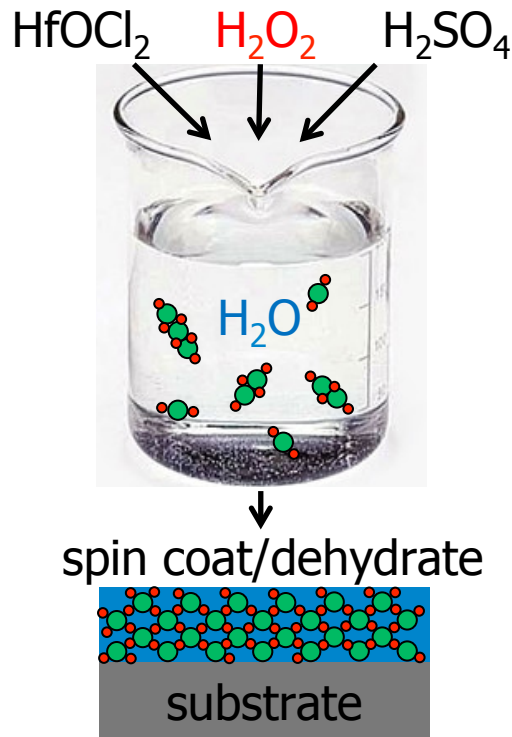


Pattern collapse on a 70 nm pitch with dose of 1.65 nC/cm²

Background

Solution-based nanolaminates

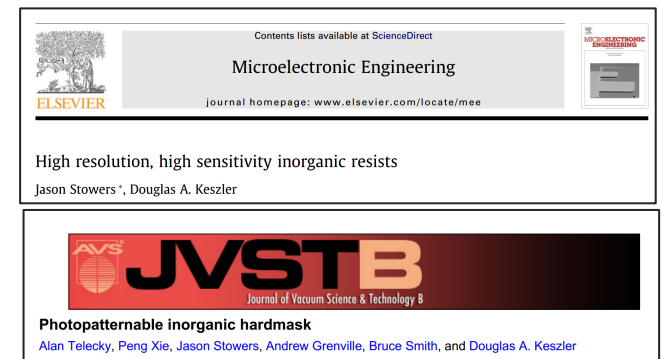
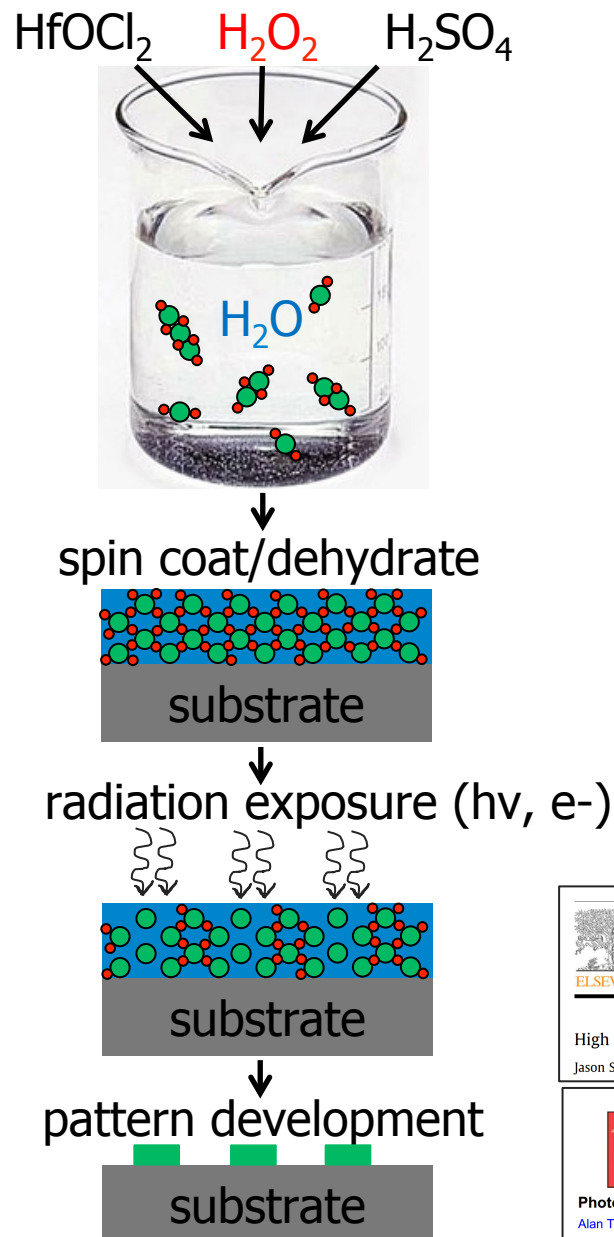
- Sub-10 nm layer thicknesses.
- Smooth surfaces enabled by inorganic nanoclusters formed in solution.
- Can nanopatterning be extended to lateral dimensions?



Background

Lateral nanopatterning

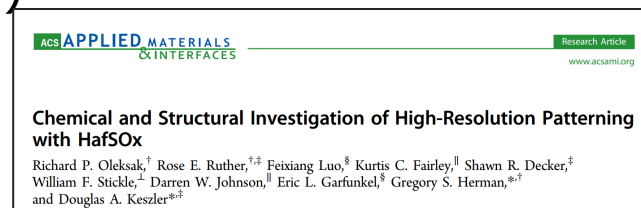
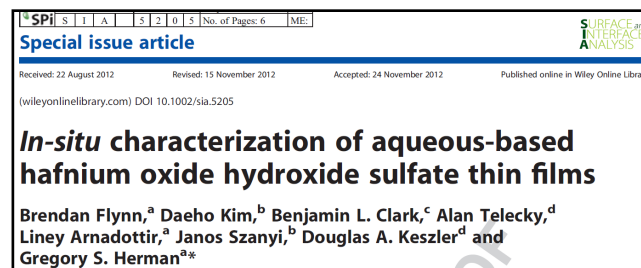
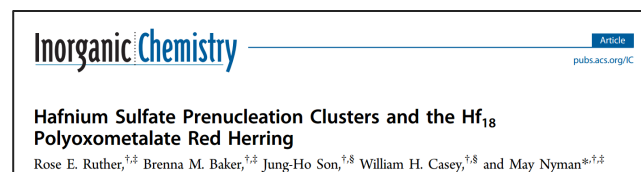
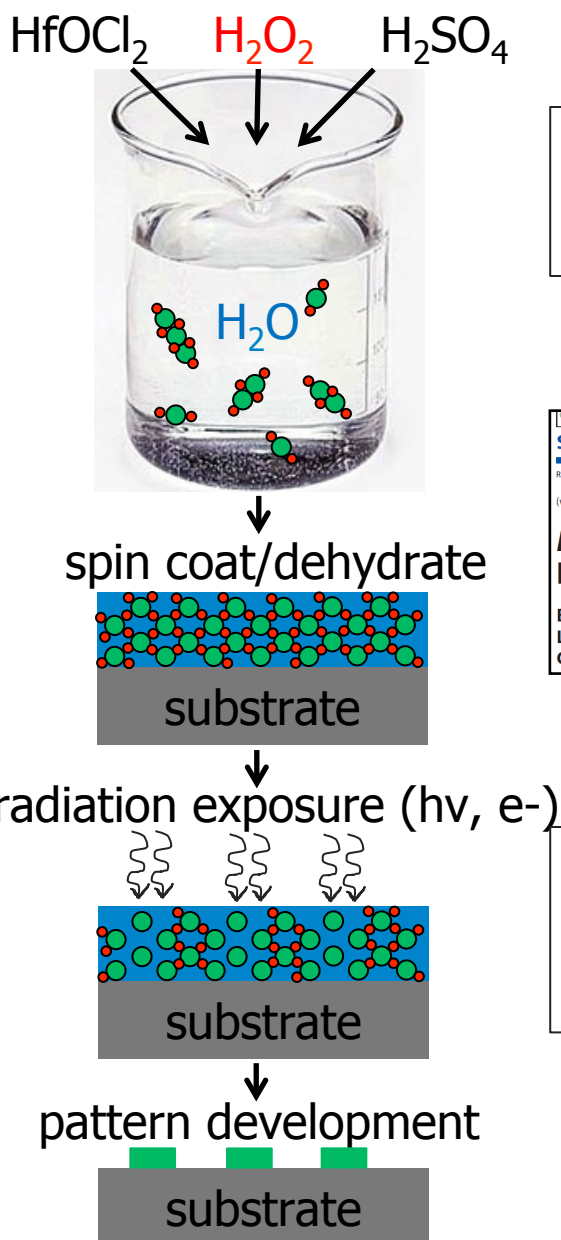
- Requires complexation of radiation sensitive component that controls solubility.
- HfSO_x and ZrSO_x nanoclusters with hydrogen peroxide shown to be promising.
- Results in negative tone resist (resist remains in locations exposed to radiation).



Background

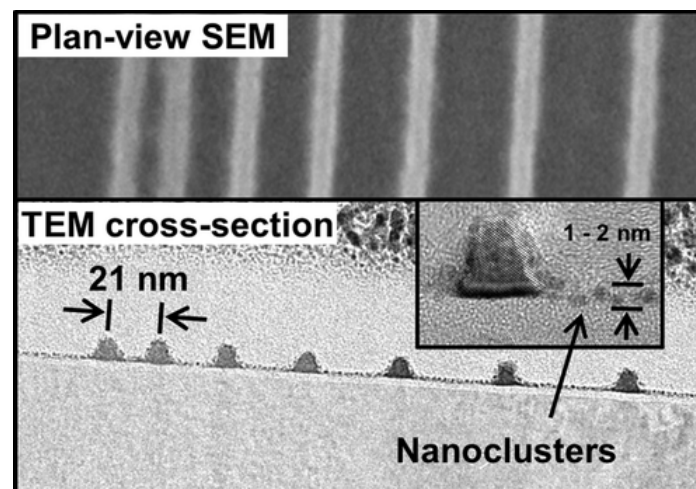
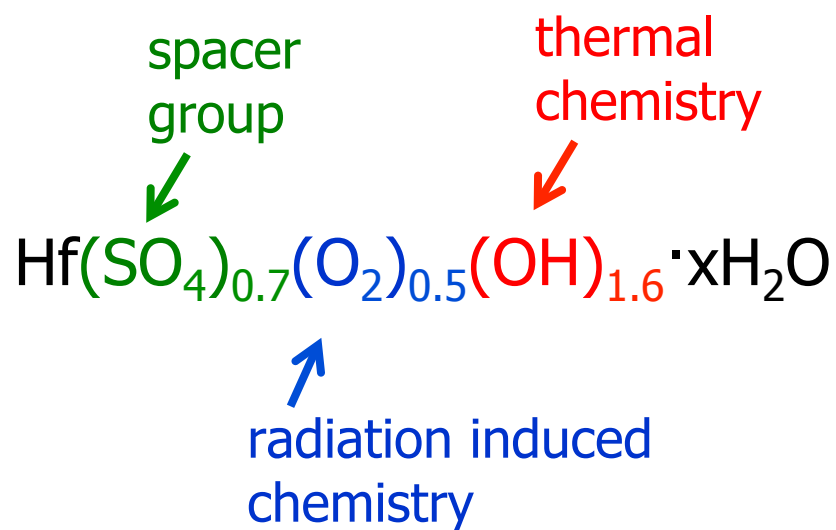
Lateral nanopatterning

- Hafnium tetramers stabilized in solution by hydrogen peroxide.
- Thermal treatments result in significant dehydration of HfSOx and formation of Hf-O-Hf bonding.
- Sub 10 nm high density patterns can be obtained using e-beam lithography.



Background

HafSOx - nanopatterning

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& INTERFACESResearch Article
www.acsami.org

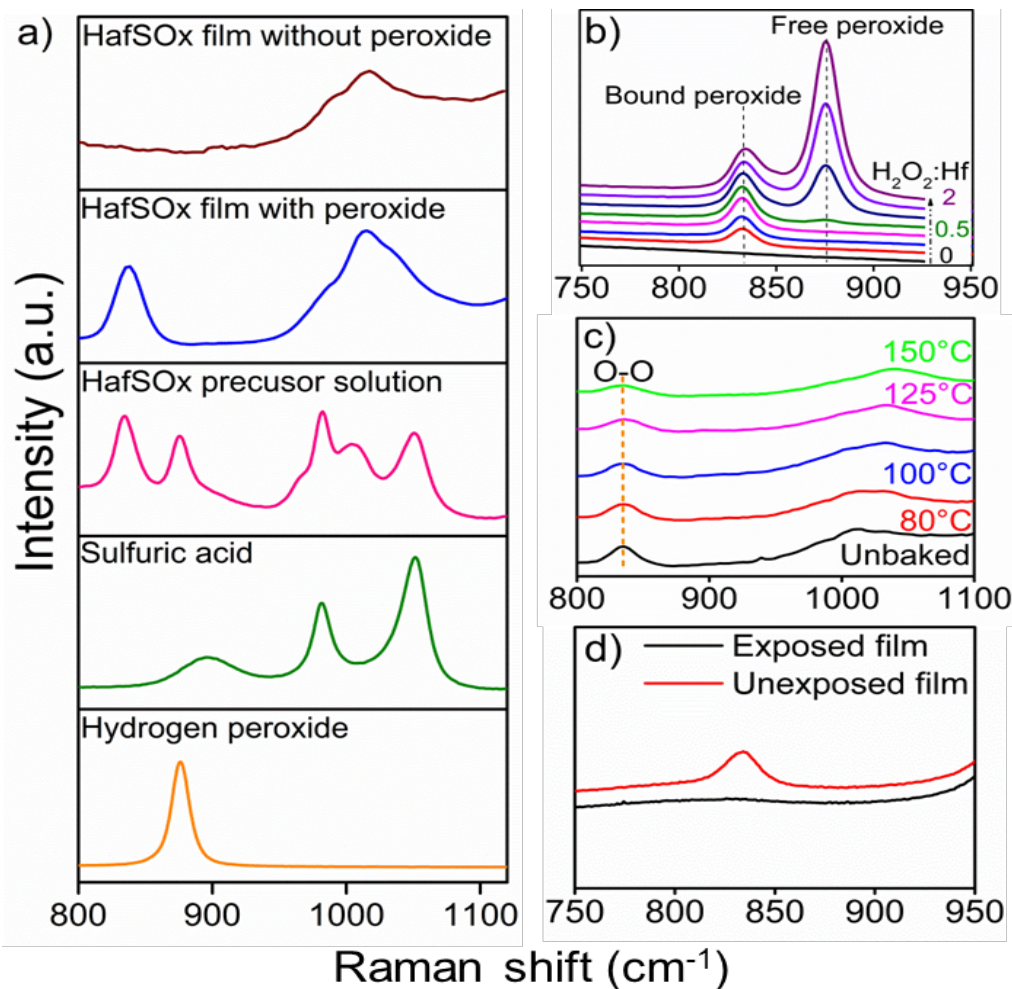
Chemical and Structural Investigation of High-Resolution Patterning with HafSOx

Richard P. Oleksak,[†] Rose E. Ruth,^{†,‡} Feixiang Luo,[§] Kurtis C. Fairley,^{||} Shawn R. Decker,[‡] William F. Stickle,[‡] Darren W. Johnson,^{||} Eric L. Garfunkel,[§] Gregory S. Herman,^{*,†} and Douglas A. Keszler^{*,‡}

Raman Characterization of HafSO_x

Peroxide and sulfate bind to Hf-clusters in solution.

Films retain primarily bound peroxide and sulfate.

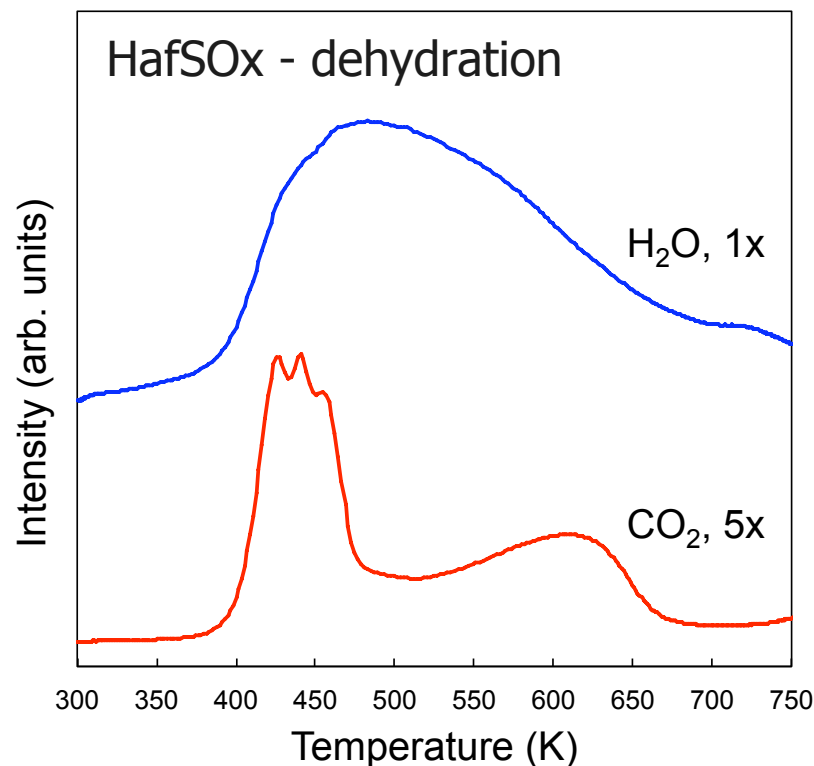


Bound peroxide saturates at 0.5 O₂ per Hf.

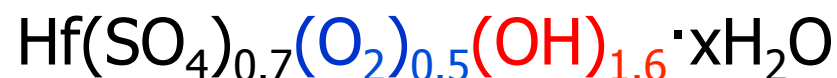
Bound peroxide is thermally stable, but readily decomposes on radiation exposure.

Temperature Programmed Desorption

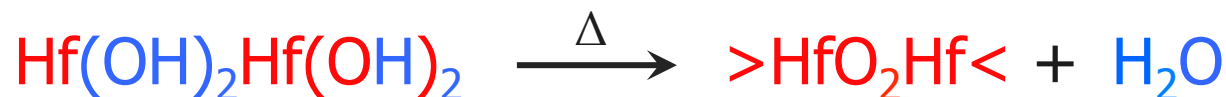
Thermal chemistry



thermal
chemistry

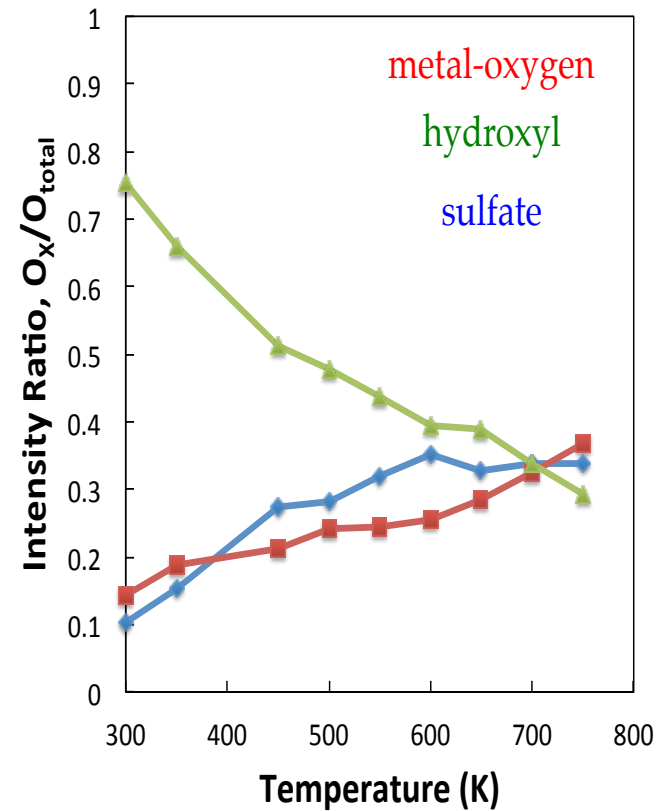
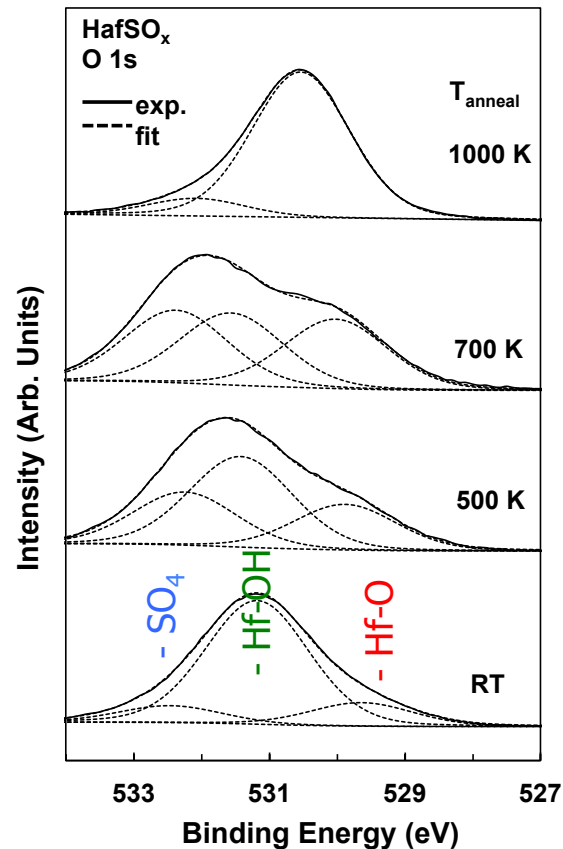


radiation induced chemistry



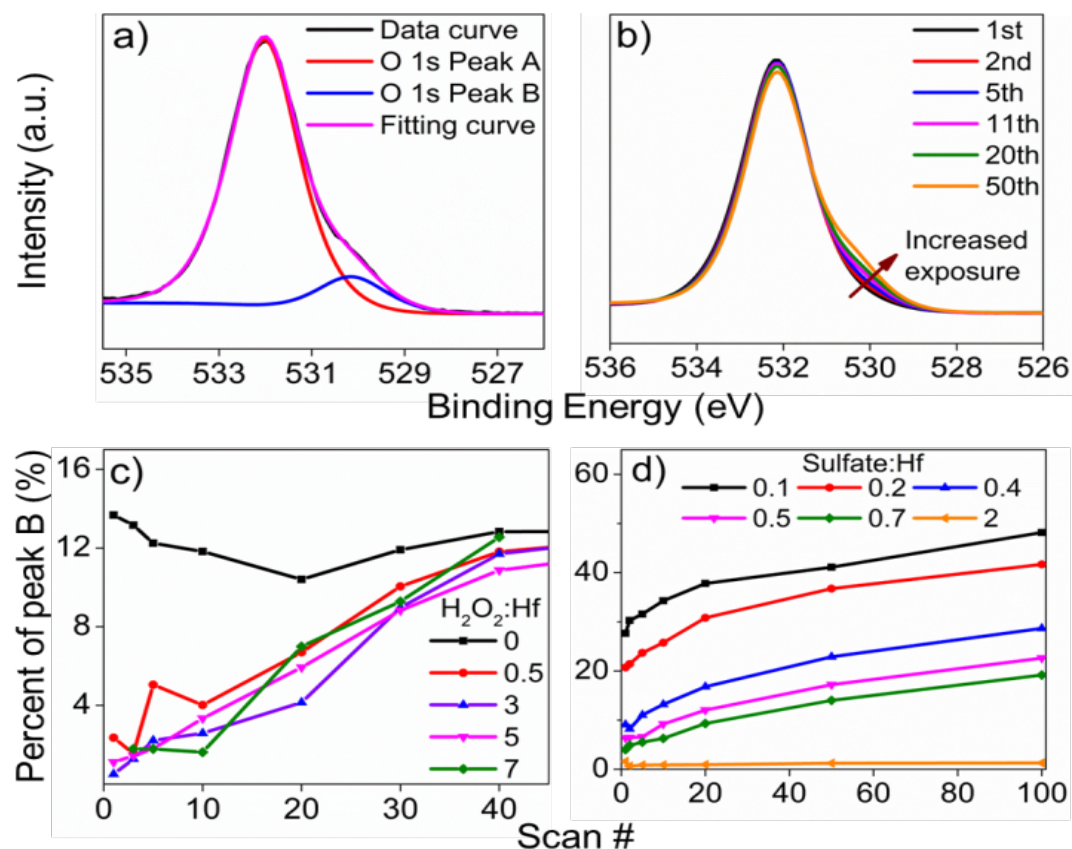
X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy

Thermal chemistry



X-ray Induced Chemistries in HfSO_x

$h\nu = 1487 \text{ eV}$

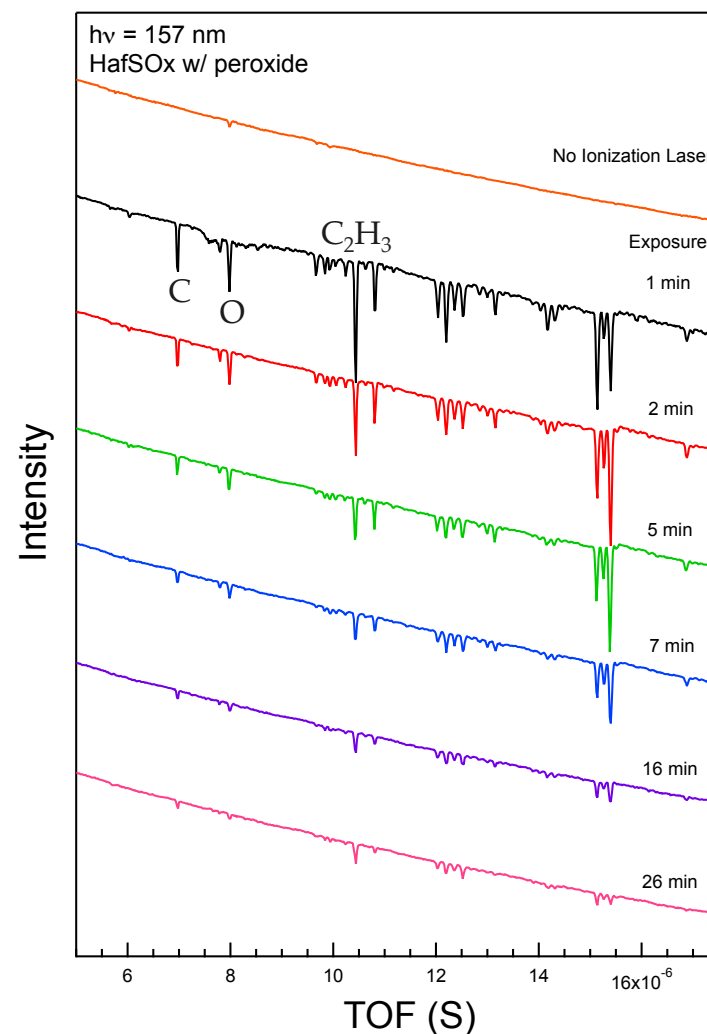
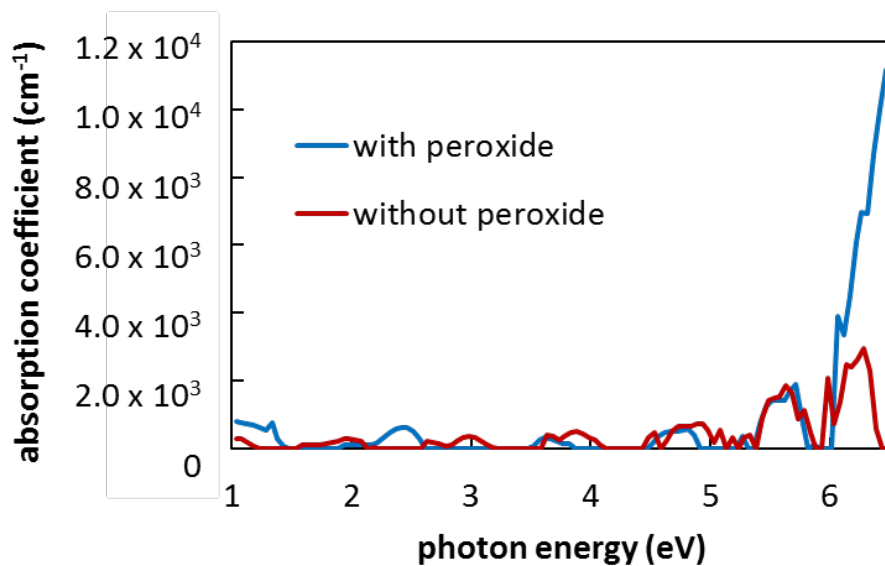


Photon Induced Chemistries in HafSO_x

Photon stimulated desorption

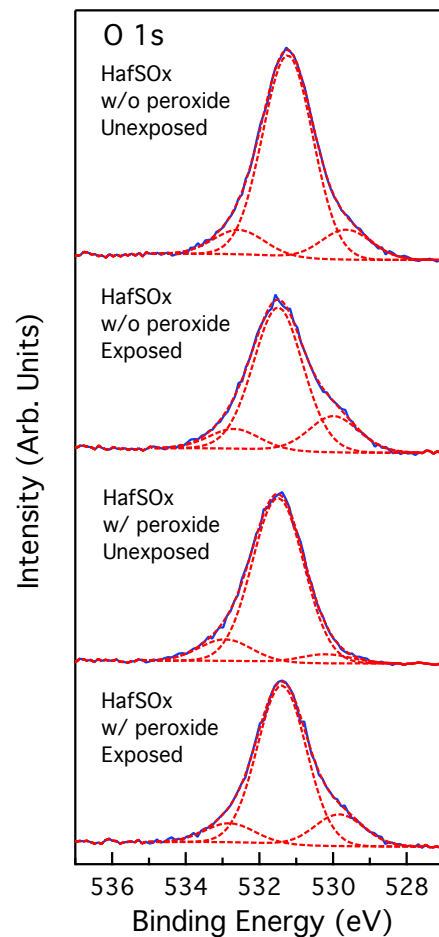
$h\nu = 157 \text{ nm}$ (7.9 eV)

Laser power $\sim 30 \text{ mJ/s}$



Photon Induced Chemistries in HafSO_x

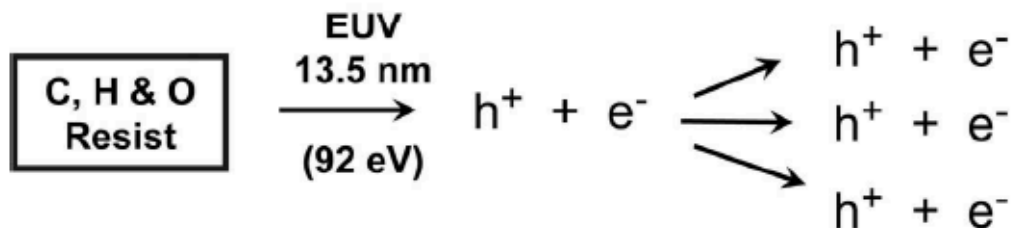
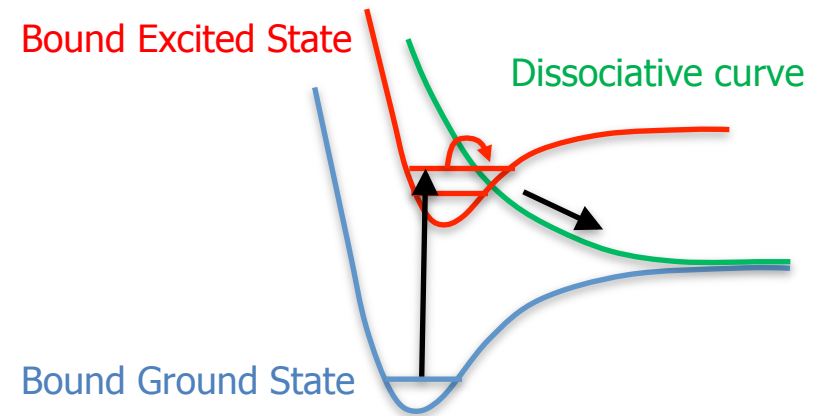
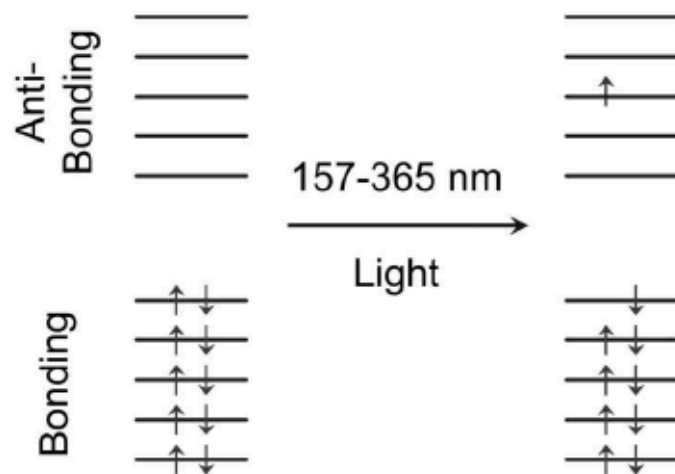
Photon induced chemistry
 $h\nu = 157 \text{ nm (7.9 eV)}$



Sample	B.E. (eV)			% Area		
	High B.E. peak	Middle B.E. peak	Low B.E. peak	High B.E. peak (SO ₄)	Middle B.E. peak (Hf-OH)	Low B.E. peak (Hf-O-Hf)
HafSO _x w/o peroxide Unexposed	532.6	531.2	529.6	8.2	81.1	10.7
HafSO _x w/o peroxide Exposed	532.8	531.5	530.0	8.1	73.2	18.7
HafSO _x w/ peroxide Unexposed	533.1	531.7	530.7	9.5	82.9	7.6
HafSO _x w/ peroxide Exposed	533.0	531.4	529.9	5.9	80.0	14.2

Resist Exposure Mechanisms

Energy States of Molecular Orbitals



Role of Electrons in Nanopatterning

Low energy electrons ($< 90\text{eV}$) from EUV radiation, not EUV photons, may be primary species driving radiation induced chemistries

Characterize low energy electron interaction with HfSO_x

Basics on electron scattering in solids:

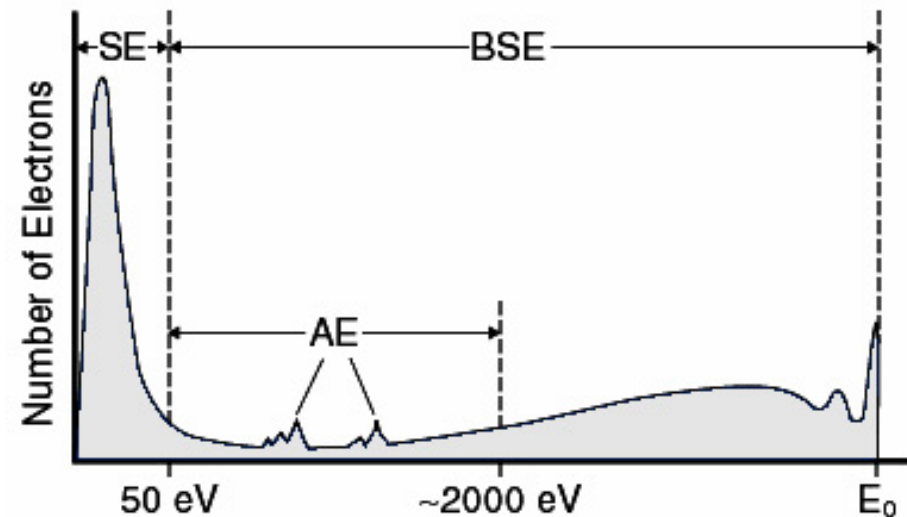
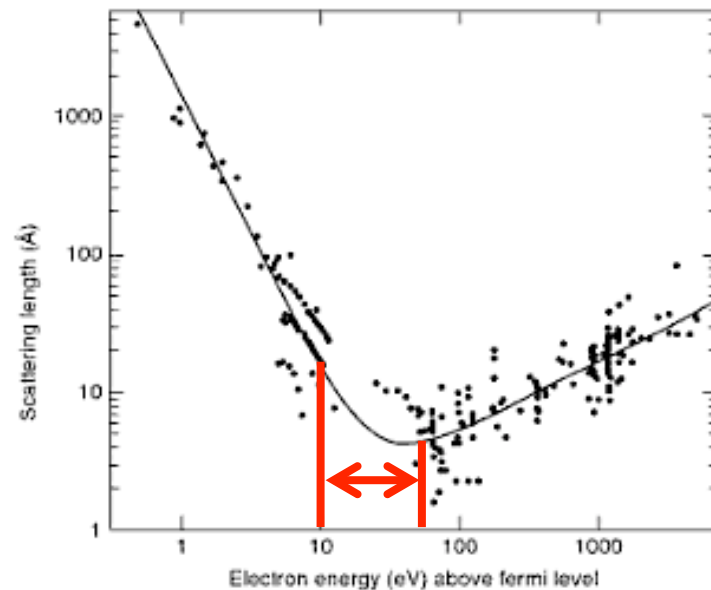
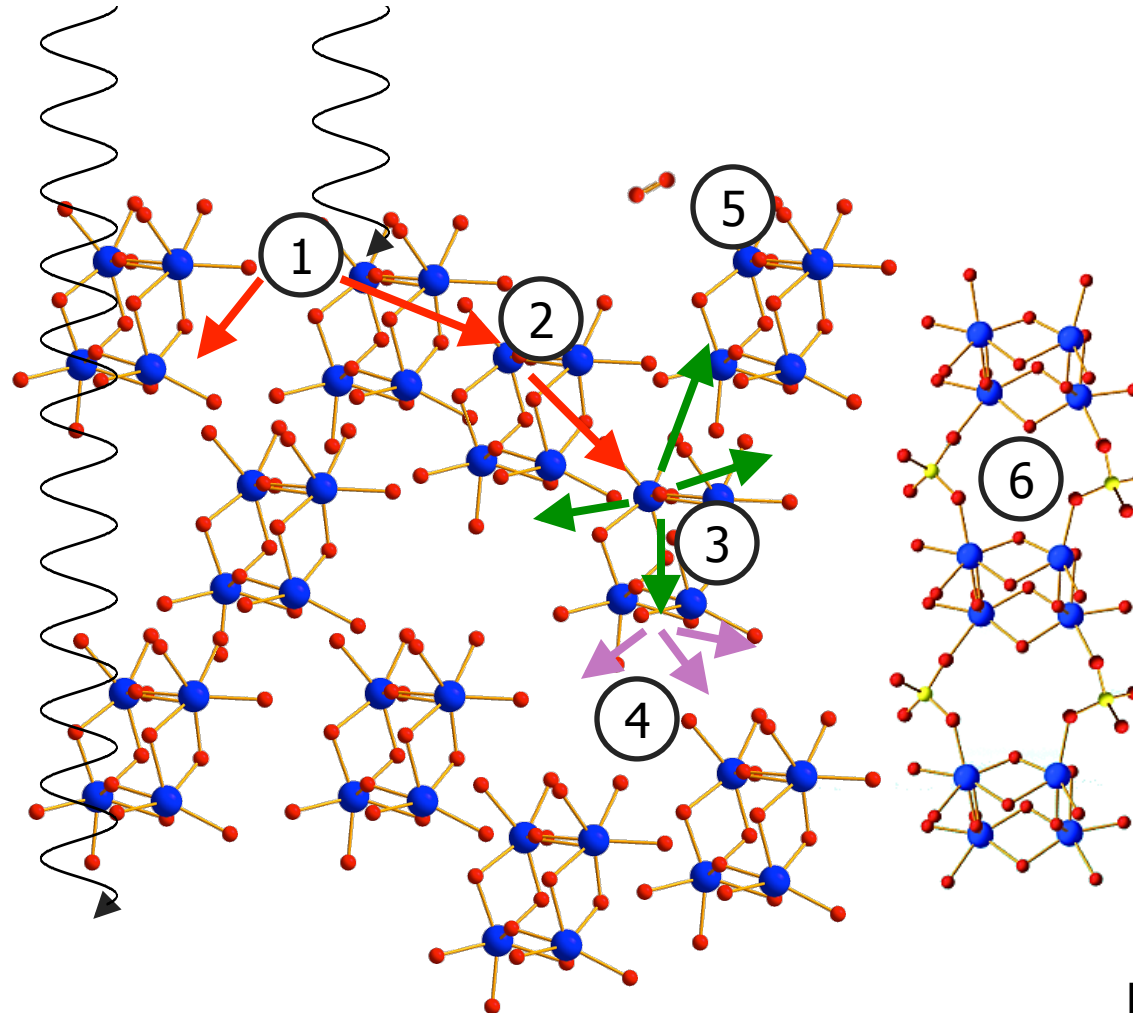


Figure after Goldstein et al. 1981.

Interaction of HfSO_x with EUV

$h\nu = 92 \text{ eV}$



Anisotropic

- ① Photon absorption (high Hf absorption cross section)
- ② Electron scattering

Isotropic

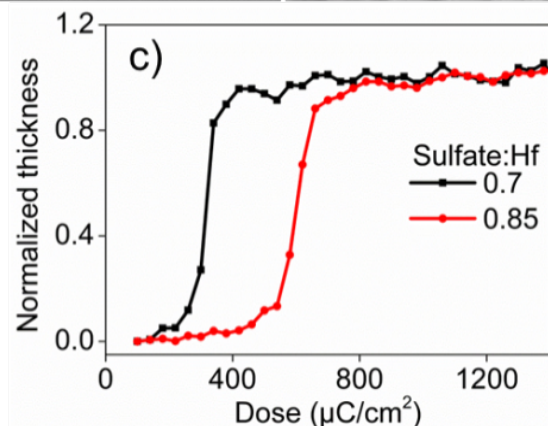
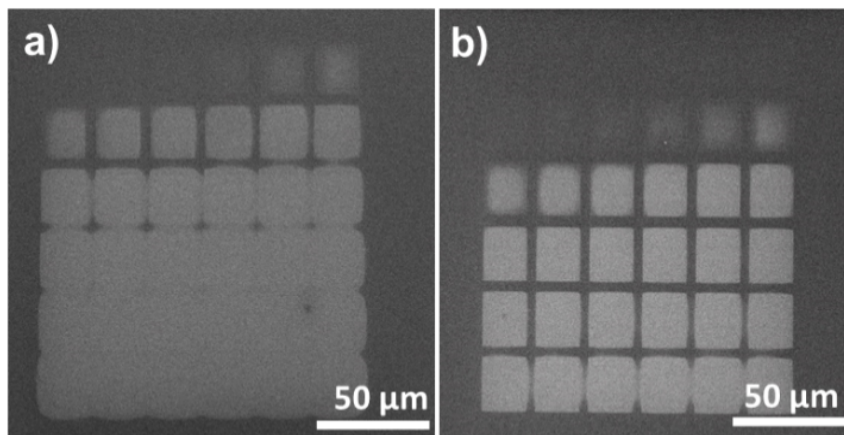
- ③ Secondary electrons ($E_{\text{kin}} \sim 20-80 \text{ eV}$)
- ④ Thermal electrons ($E_{\text{kin}} < 15 \text{ eV}$)
- ⑤ O_2 desorption
- ⑥ Condensation reactions

Expected yield $> 4 \text{ e}^-/\text{photon}$

HafSOx as an eBeam Resist

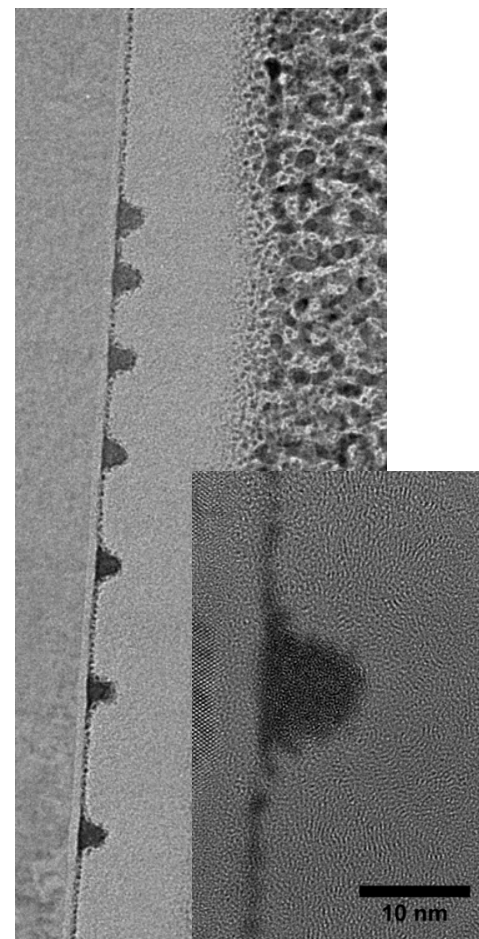
Electron induced chemistry

100 to 1500 $\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$ in increments of 40 μC



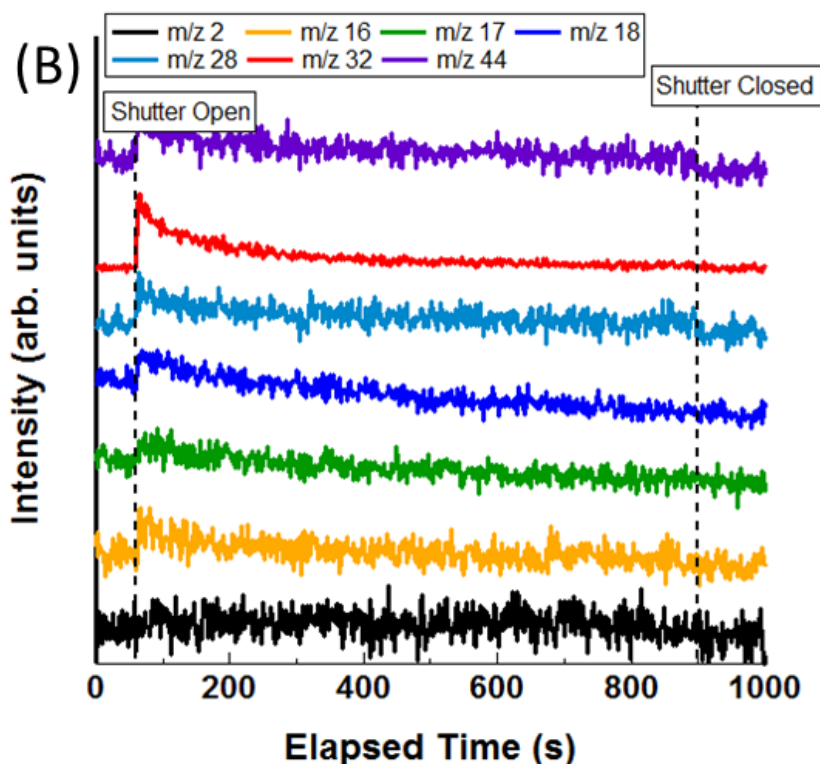
R. E. Ruther, et al., in preparation

Patterned w/ 30 keV e^-
at 800 $\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$

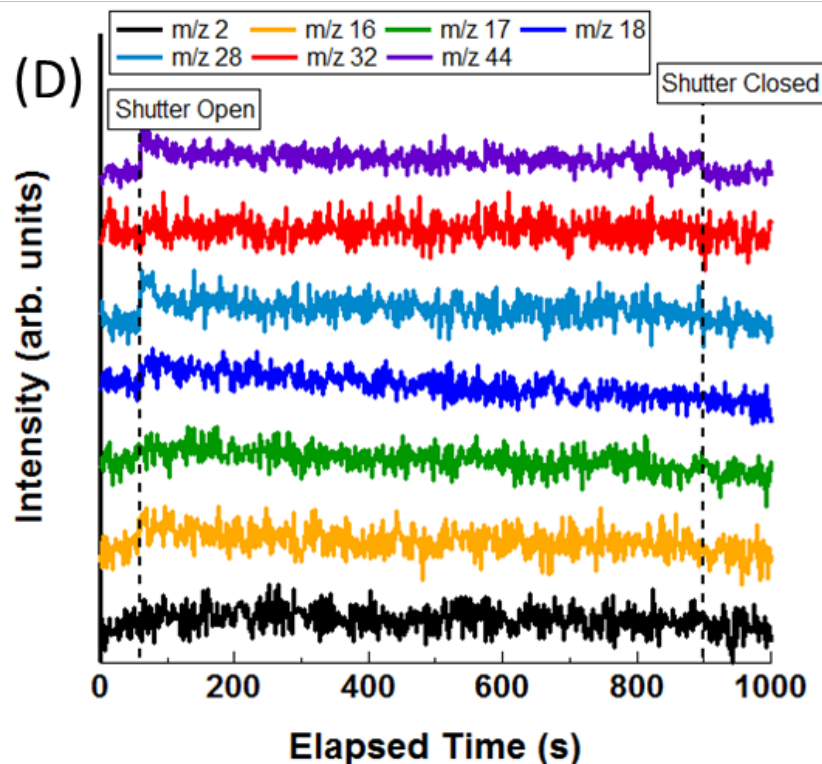


Electron Stimulated Desorption HafSOx

HafSOx (w/ H₂O₂), $E_{\text{kin}} = 80$ eV

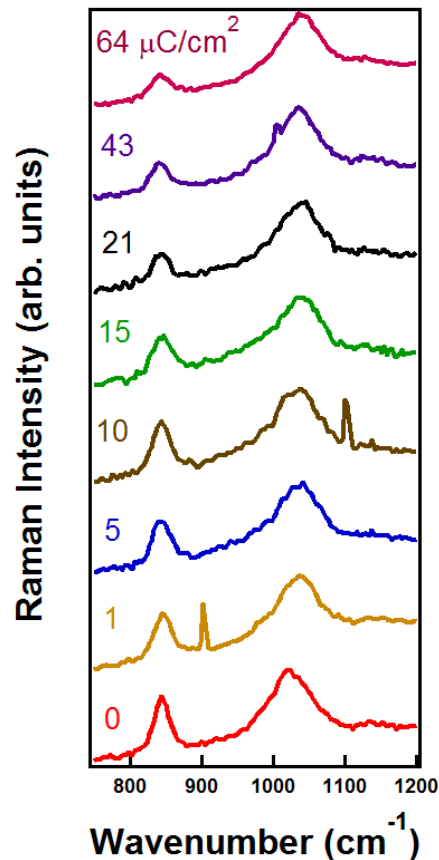


HafSOx (w/o H₂O₂), $E_{\text{kin}} = 80$ eV

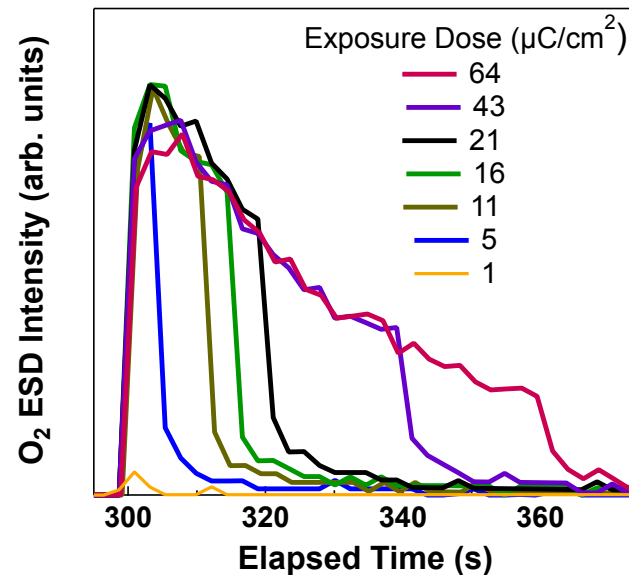


Significant O₂ desorption only from HafSOx films with peroxide.

Electron Stimulated Desorption HafSOx



HafSOx (w/ H_2O_2), $E_{\text{kin}} = 500 \text{ eV}$

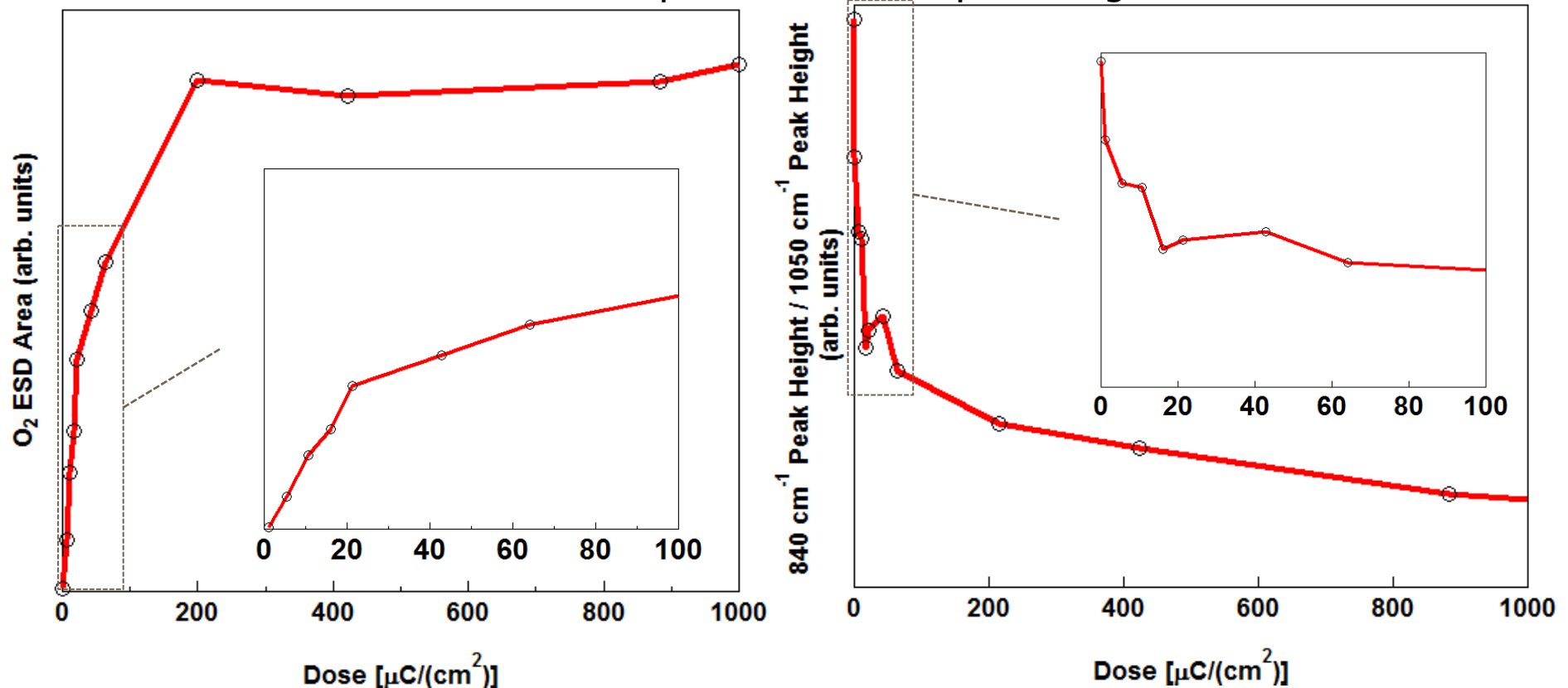


- To understand initial electron induced chemistries in HafSOx
- O_2 desorption profiles were monitored for short exposure times
- Raman spectra for peroxide species ($\sim 840 \text{ cm}^{-1}$) were monitored as well
- Correlation found for increasing O_2 desorption and reduction in peroxide Raman signal

O_2 ESD curves for varying electron beam exposure times for 0.25M-Hf HafSOx films. Electron current = $1.07 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$

Comparison between Raman (bulk-sensitive) and ESD (surface-sensitive) techniques

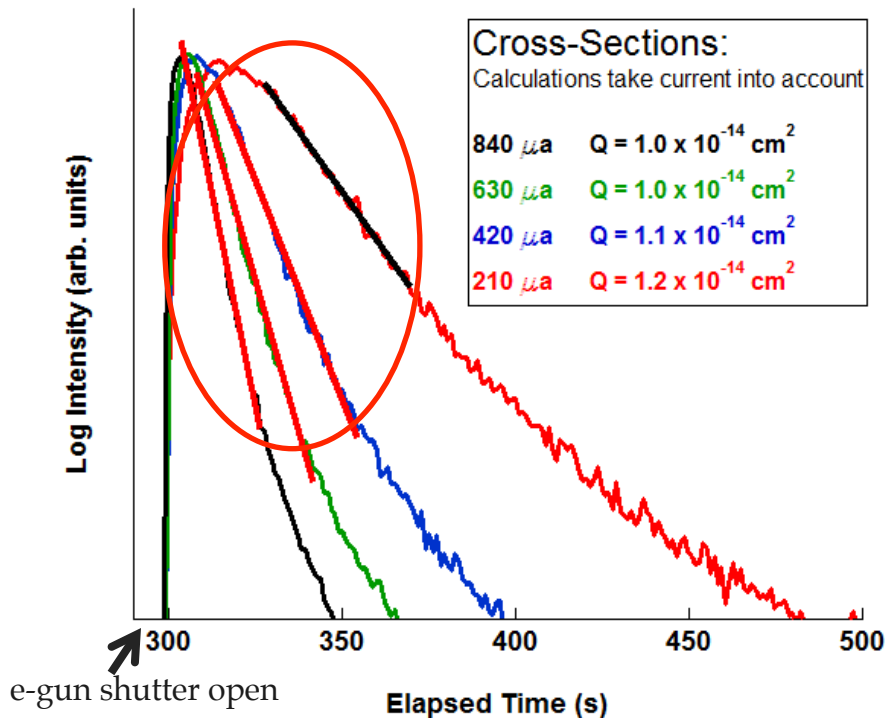
Rapid increase in O₂ ESD area with corresponding decrease in peroxide Raman peak height



Relative peroxide height from Raman and area under O₂ ESD curves versus electron beam exposure times for 0.25M-Hf HafSO_x films. Electron current = 1.07 $\mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$

Estimation of ESD Cross-Sections

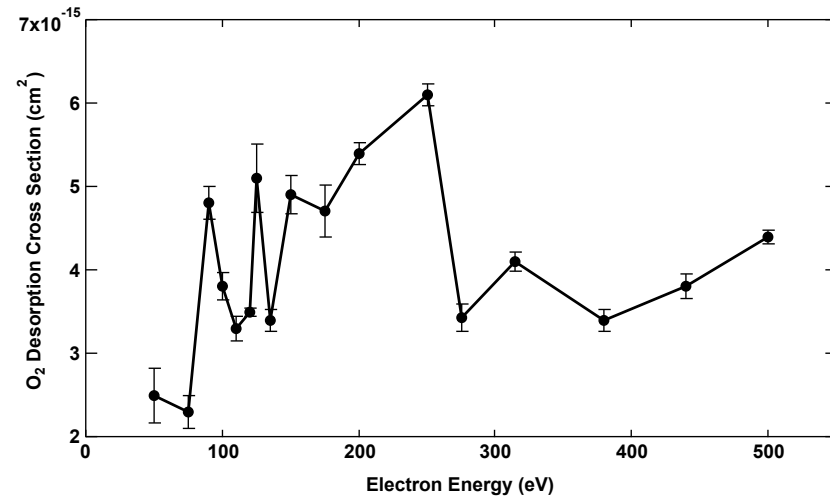
$$E_{\text{kin}} = 500\text{eV}$$



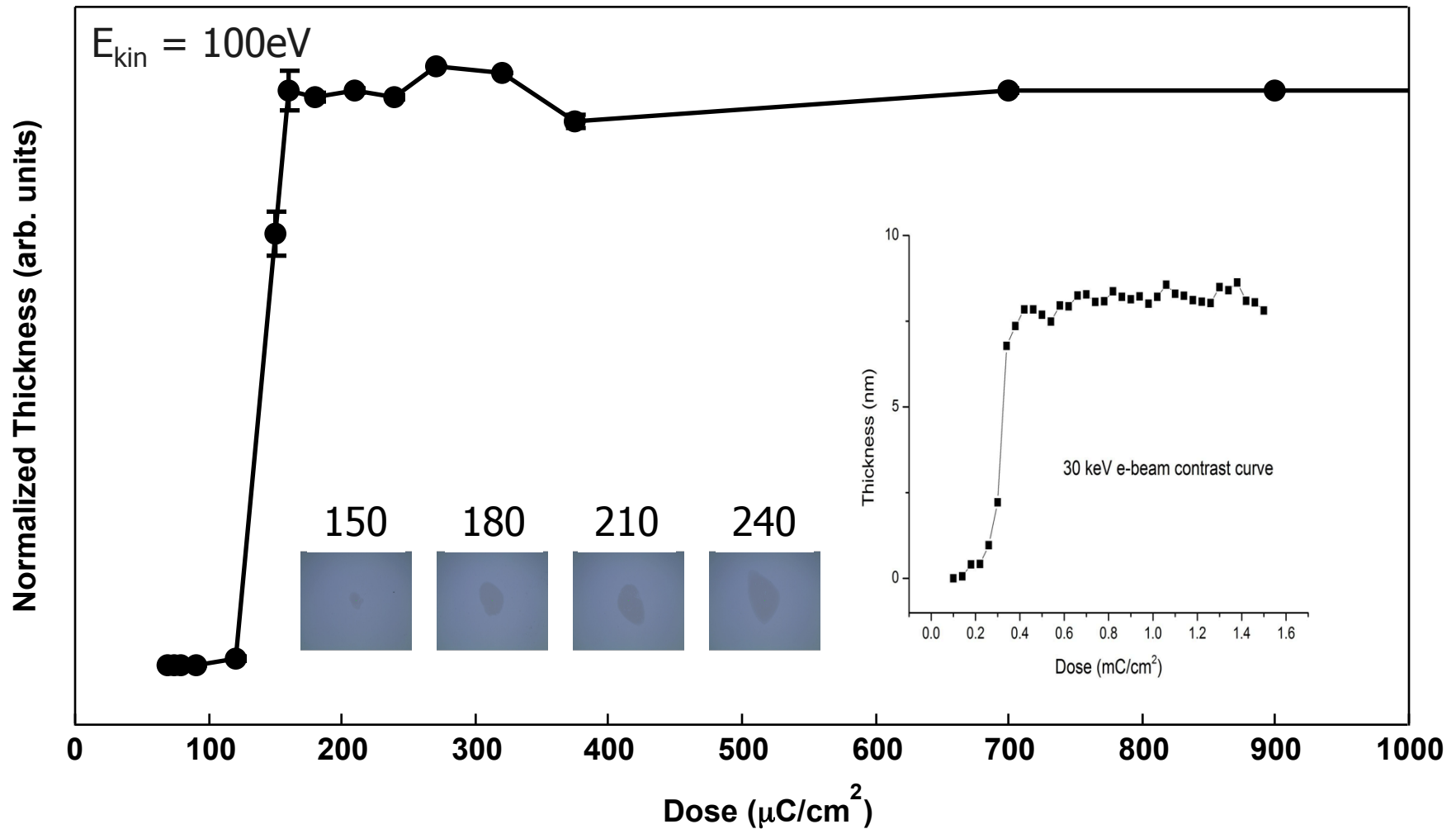
log O_2 desorption intensity for 0.15M-Hf HafSOx films for multiple current densities with 500eV beam energy.

$$QMS(t) \cong \beta \frac{J\sigma}{\epsilon} C_{\text{O}_2}(t)$$

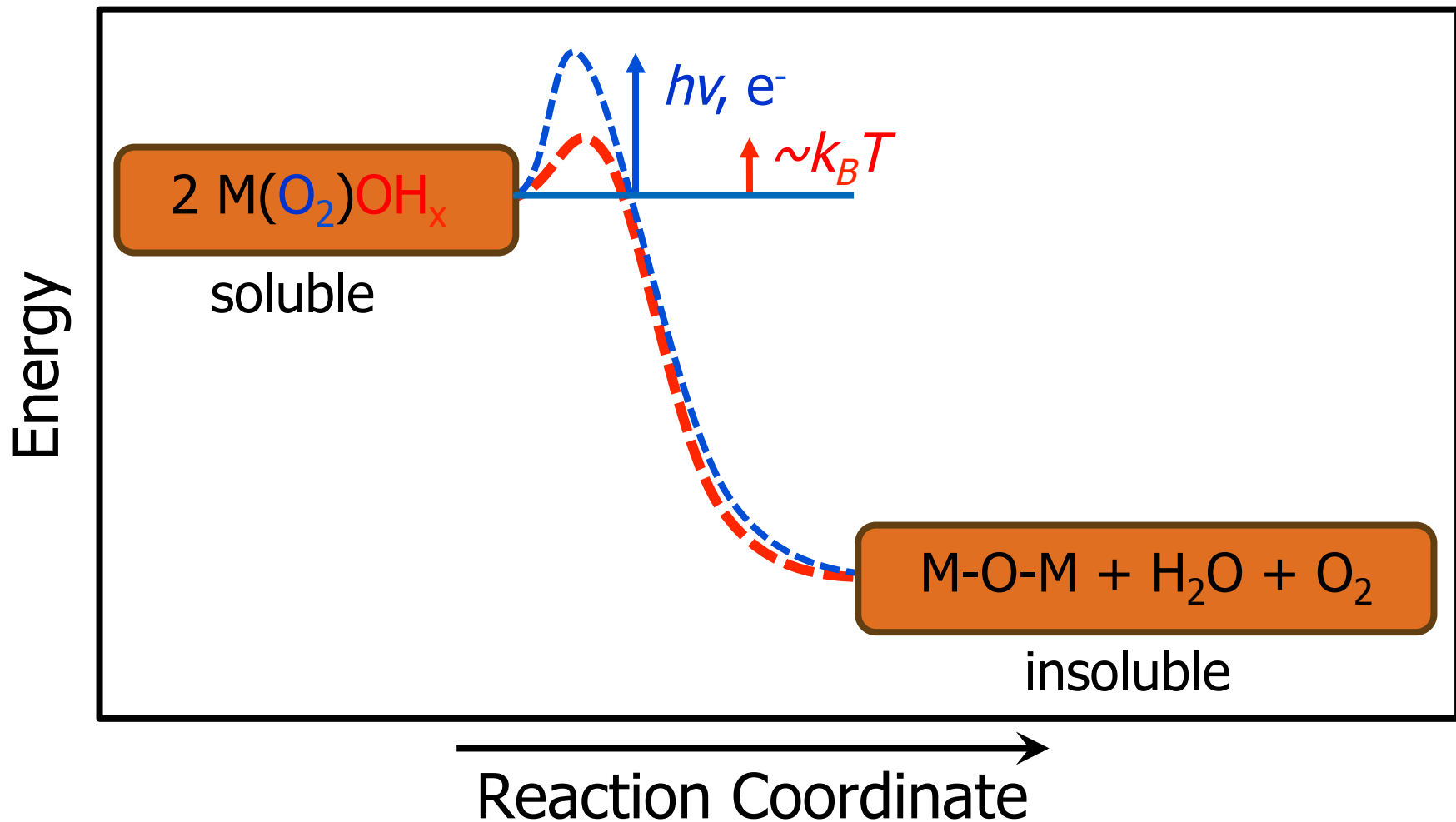
$$\frac{QMS(t)}{QMS_{\text{init}}} = \exp\left\{\frac{JQ}{\epsilon} t\right\}$$



HafSO_x Electron Contrast Curves



Competing Condensation Processes



Summary

- Nanodimensional patterning has been demonstrated using HafSOx.
- Addition of peroxy species to cluster provides radiation active species.
- Solubility transition dominated by thermal and/or radiation induced formation of Hf-O-Hf bonding in film.
- Electron stimulated desorption and temperature desorption indicates that H₂O and O₂ are main desorbing species.
- Methods being developed will be applied to other resist materials.

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Richard Oleksak, Brendan Flynn
Jennie Amador, Shawn Decker



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Feixiang Luo, Szu-Ying Wang



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